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## 21st Century Pedagogy: Teaching using Technologies and Active Learning

On 13th July 2023, DISTED College organised a workshop for the academic staff on 21st Century Pedagogy: A Way Forward (Teaching using Technologies and Active Learning). The hands-on session was facilitated by Associate Professor Ts Rozita Husain from the Eduworld Academy.

In today's rapidly evolving educational landscape, educators must continually enhance their pedagogy skills and adopt active learning strategies. These skills and strategies are crucial in ensuring student engagement and fostering the development of 21st century learning skills.

DISTED is further equipping all teaching staff with the necessary competencies, knowledge and skills to integrate active learning strategies and effective pedagogy into their classroom instruction to address this need. By actively engaging in hands-on activities, participants will gain practical experience that can be directly applied in their teaching practice.

The participants achieved the following learning outcomes from the session – (1) Define Active Learning; (2) Analyse Active Learning Strategies; (3) Create Active Learning Strategies; (4) Develop Active Learning Assessments; and (5) Incorporate Active Learning into Future

Teaching. Educators can create dynamic and engaging learning experiences that enhance student outcomes by incorporating these strategies into their instructional design.

At the end of the session, DISTED's teaching staff acquired the knowledge, skills, and confidence to implement active learning strategies in their classrooms effectively. Integrating pedagogy skills and active learning strategies is a powerful combination that can transform the learning experience and equip DISTED students with the essential skills they need to thrive in the 21st century. Incorporating the current educational technology tools (like Artificial Intelligence) and exploring best practices further enhances the participant's ability to create dynamic and effective teaching environments. Ultimately, this course empowers educators to transform their classrooms into engaging active learning hubs, preparing students to thrive in an ever-changing world.

Prof. Dr. Vikneswaran Nair  
President



强大的组合，可以改变学习体验，并为立达学生提供在二十一世纪蓬勃发展所需的基本技能。结合当前的教育技术工具(例如人工智能)并探索最佳实践，可以进一步增强参与者创建动态有效教学环境的能力。最终，本课程使教育工作者能够将其教室转变为活跃的学习中心，为学生在瞬息万变的世界中蓬勃发展做好准备。

Prof. Dr. Vikneswaran Nair  
院长

(Mandarin Translator, Dr. Tan Sze Huey, Lecturer, School of Pre University Studies)



### 二十一世纪教学法： 利用技术和主动学习进行教学

2023年7月13日，立达学院为教职员工举办了二十一世纪教学法研讨会：未来之路（利用技术和主动学习进行教学）。来自 Eduworld Academy 的 Rozita Husain 副教授主持了实践课程。

在当今迅速发展的教育环境中，教育工作者必须不断提高自己的教学技能，并采用积极的学习策略。这些技能和策略对于确保学生参与和促进二十一世纪学习技能的发展至关重要。

为满足这需求，立达学院进一步为所有教学人员传授了必要的能力、知识和技能，以便将主动学习策略和有效教学法融入课堂。通过积极参

与实践活动，参与者获得可直接应用于其教学实践的实际经验。

参与者通过本次研讨会取得了以下学习成果：(1) 定义主动学习；(2) 分析主动学习策略；(3) 创建主动学习策略；(4) 开发主动学习评估；以及(5) 将主动学习融入未来教学。教育工作者可以通过将这些策略纳入教学设计中来创造动态且引人入胜的学习体验，从而增强学生的学习效果。

在研讨会结束时，立达学院的教职员获得了知识、技能和信心，可以有效地在教室中实施积极的学习策略。整合教学技能和主动学习策略是一个

## What's Next? Education Pathways with RUMC

On the 17th of July, a group of 30 DISTED students and three staff members from Pre-University studies, including Cambridge A-levels (CAL), South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE), and Foundation in Science (FIS), embarked on a friendly visit to our esteemed partner university, RUMC (RCSI and UCD Malaysia Campus).

RUMC, a prominent private medical university near the DISTED Campus in Penang, warmly welcomed the visiting students and staff. Ms. Zed Zuraida



binti Zamel and Ms. Nurul Afifah binti Abdul Samad, RUMC counsellors, greeted them. The visit began with a sharing session led by Hew Ja Jet, a current RUMC student, who shared valuable insights and experiences as an A-level student, shedding light on the decision-making process that led him to his current pursuit. DISTED students had the opportunity to engage in a question-and-answer session with Brady Chua, another RUMC student aspiring to become a psychiatrist.

The visit continued with a hands-on cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) session, facilitated by both RUMC students and using the Little Anne



QCPR model (Laerdal), a pediatric basic life support manikin. The session concluded with a thought-provoking presentation by Associate Professor Dato' Dr Sukumar Mahesan from the Department of Public Health Medicine at RUMC. The topic, 'From dream to reality: The road to becoming a doctor (career choices),' provided valuable insights into the journey of becoming a doctor.

To wrap up the educational trip, the students were given a comprehensive campus tour, allowing them to explore the facilities and resources available at RUMC. This visit provided a valuable opportunity for DISTED students to gain firsthand knowledge and inspiration for their educational pathways.

Dr. Kam Yew Chee  
Senior Lecturer, School of Pre-University Studies

## Psychology Student Colloquium Showcases Research Excellence

On July 11, 2023, DISTED's Bachelor of Psychology students organised a research colloquium. The event served as a platform for third-year psychology students to exhibit their research talent. The colloquium offered a valuable opportunity for students to showcase their research skills and prowess in oral presentation.

The colloquium featured a captivating series of 5-minute thesis presentations, where each student skilfully presented their undergraduate research topic with passion and expertise. These presentations were a testament to their hard work, extensive knowledge, and deep commitment to the field of psychology.

Lim Wei Qi received the prestigious Best Presenter Award among the outstanding presentations. She delivered an exceptional presentation on her research topic, "Relationship

between perceived social support and academic burnout among undergraduates: The mediating role of adaptive academic coping." By exploring these dynamics in this study by Lim Wei Qi, the research provided insights into the potential protective role of social support and adaptive coping strategies in mitigating academic burnout among undergraduate students. Her presentation was captivating and engaging, conveying a clear and concise message to the audience.

The School of Psychology looks forward to more exciting events and opportunities to showcase the

talented psychology students of DISTED and delve deeper into the realm of psychological research and exploration.

Nurul Hidayah Mohamad Farok  
Lecturer, School of Psychology





## Child Labour: A Global Challenge Requiring Education and Awareness

*"If we are sacked from the garment factory, I could go to school, but then who would feed my mother and sister?"*

- Shahadat, 14 years old Bangladeshi garment worker.

Child labour remains a persistent issue worldwide despite the existence and implementation of rules and regulations to reduce or eradicate this heinous crime. It is a deeply rooted problem in human history, and its complexities are not as straightforward as they may initially appear, as children have been exploited to varying degrees throughout different eras.

According to a report by the International Labour Organisation, the number of child labourers has increased from 152 million to 162 million worldwide over four years from 2016. Unfortunately, these numbers are expected to rise even further by the end of 2023 due to the economic

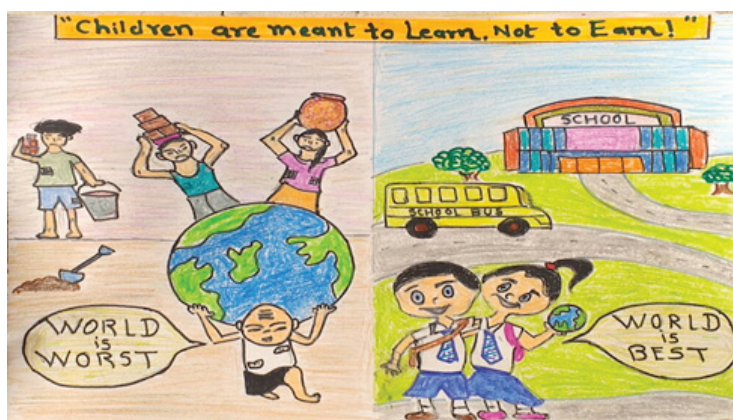


Image Credit: Smile Foundation, India (2021)

impacts of COVID-19.

What about Malaysia? Although the issue of child labour seems distant and almost unimaginable in Malaysia due to the Children and Young Persons (Employment) Act of 1966, which prohibits the employment of children, the Children's Commissioner of Suhakam, Prof Datuk Noor Aziah Mohd Awal, has stated that child

labour does exist in Malaysia, even though the government has not disclosed accurate data on the matter.

At DISTED College, law students delve deeply into the Children and Young Persons

(Employment) Act of 1966, indirectly promoting awareness among students about the issue of child labour. Educating the public can raise awareness and discourage children's use as a source of labour, thereby providing them with opportunities for education instead.

Thanaletchumi A/P Pechumuthu  
Lecturer of Law, School of Business and Hospitality

## Captivating Promotional Videos: SMJK Perempuan Cina's Collaboration

To create captivating promotional videos, SMJK Perempuan Cina recently teamed up with mentors from the DISTED School of Computing and Engineering (SCE) for a videography lesson. This collaboration aimed to infuse professional techniques and creative storytelling into the school's promotional video, making it more impactful and engaging for prospective students and their parents.

With the guidance of experienced lecturers from SCE, the students at SMJK Perempuan Cina have gained valuable insights and practical knowledge in videography. This mentorship programme gave them a unique chance to enhance their video production skills while working on an actual project.

One specific aspect of the collaboration involved incorporating drone shots of the school into the promotional video. The partnership

between SMJK Perempuan Cina and SCE was fruitful throughout the mentorship. The students could tap into the mentors' expertise, receiving guidance that helped them refine their videography skills. This collaboration not only improved the technical aspects of the project but also encouraged the students to think creatively and critically about their promotional video.

Including drone shots in the final video added a touch of novelty and grandeur, allowing SMJK Perempuan Cina to highlight its stunning campus from unique angles. The aerial footage provided a bird's-eye view of the school's facilities, green spaces, and overall ambience, further captivating prospective students, and their families.

SMJK Perempuan Cina's decision to collaborate with the lecturers from SCE for their promotional video proved wise. The guidance and

expertise provided by the DISTED mentors significantly enhanced the students' videography skills, enabling them to create a visually stunning and engaging final product.

Seethai Subramaniam  
Head, School of Computing & Engineering



## Reviving Tradition: Pangung Semar Presents *Geliga Embun*

The George Town Festival is back, an annual celebration in Penang that draws people worldwide. This event brings together individuals of different backgrounds to celebrate the rich cultures of Malaysia. Each year, the festival surprises audiences with new cultural performances and activities. I had the opportunity to experience the production of *Geliga Embun*.

*Geliga Embun* is a famous Malaysian folktale passed down through generations. Unfortunately, traditional Malay theatres like Pangung Semar, where such stories were once performed, have become scarce in the modern world dominated by social media. However, Pangung Semar: *Geliga Embun*, presented by

Dewan Budaya of Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) and the Arjuna Sukma Academy, aims to revive this fading tradition.

Pangung Semar combines the *Mak Yong* and *Wayang Kulit* theatre genres with the *Dikir Barat* musical art form. The production takes the audience on a captivating journey, starting with *Mak Yong* and transitioning to *Wayang Kulit*, narrated by *Dikir Barat*. Accompanied by traditional Malay orchestration, including *Gamelan Melayu*, *Caklempong*, *Kendang*, *Serunai*, and the iconic *Rebab*, *Geliga Embun* features 20 talented practitioners, including *Adigurus* trainers, a *Tok Dalang* puppeteer, a *Tok Jogho* movement director, a

*Tukang Karut* storyteller, and the *Panjak*, a group of skilled musicians.

The performance engages the audience with comedic jokes, outstanding drama, and diverse artistic styles. The dedication of the crew and volunteers ensured a flawless play from start to finish. It is particularly inspiring for me to see that many crew members are teenagers and young adults, showing a renewed interest in traditional arts. The experience was genuinely cherishing for me, and the spotlight given on the preservation and sharing of our cultural heritage is amazing.

Alden Teh Yi H'ng  
SACE Student



## Personal BRaND & GRoWTH Mindset



**Dr Camille Koppen**  
-Brightwings Founder

**Brightwings Performance**, founded by Dr Camille Koppen, will be running a Personal Branding and Growth Mindset workshop for DISTED's scholarship students and Student Representative Council on 6th August 2023. It will be a highly engaging session that will help the students to develop self-awareness, emotional intelligence, and the mindset and skills to accelerate their personal growth. This will help students to find their direction and be proactive in progressing their future career.

As a professional trainer at Oxford University, the London School of Economics, and global businesses, my workshops on Personal Branding often hinge on a simple, yet profound question, asked 25 minutes into each session: "How would you describe me?" Anticipation coupled with a hint of apprehension invariably washes over me as I await their responses. Most of the time my students capture my essence pretty well: enthusiastic, articulate, compassionate. Although, I once had the misfortune to be labelled as "normal"!

Question for you: If you had the power to decide, without limiting

yourself, how would you want others to describe you?

The essence of a personal brand revolves around perception - how you see yourself and how others see you. My role is dual-faceted: I help people to articulate who they are, including their deeply ingrained values, long-term goals, and inherent strengths, as well as how they aspire to be perceived. At the same time, I help them discover the disparity between how they want to be seen and how people actually see them.

When you allow yourself to introspect and develop a clear understanding of who you are, you can make

informed decisions, find a meaningful path and set the right goals for yourself.

A growth mindset—the belief that abilities can develop through hard work—helps overcome challenges and foster continuous improvement. Paired with self-awareness, it forms a powerful combination which helps students to accelerate their personal growth to meet their unique goals.

Dr Camille Koppen  
Brightwings Founder

BA (Hons) degree and PhD in Experimental Psychology, University of Oxford

